

Message Text

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15

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C O N F I D E N T I A L TUNIS 5387

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS PINR TS US

SUBJECT: TUNISIAN REQUEST FOR MILITARY INTELLIGENCE
TRAINING

1. IN NOVEMBER 1973 GOT MINISTRY DEFENSE (MOD)
REQUESTED A DOD MOBILE TRAINING TEAM (MTT) TO INSTRUCT
IN COMBAT OPERATIONS (INTELLIGENCE). ORIGINAL REQUEST
WAS PRINCIPALLY FOR INSTRUCTION IN STRATEGIC ANALYSIS
AND PERSONNEL INVESTIGATION. AT RECENT MEETING OF USLOT
REPS WITH MOD LIAISON OFF AND OFFICER FROM MOD'S
MILITARY SECURITY BRANCH TUNISIANS PRESENTED EXPANDED
LIST OF SUBJECTS THEY WISH COVERED BY MTT, AS FOLLOWS.

A. INTERNAL SECURITY

B. BORDER SECURITY

C. COUNTER-INSURGENCY INVESTIGATION

D. COUNTER-INTELLIGENCE

E. PERSONNEL INVESTIGATION PROCEDURES

F. COMMUNICATIONS SECURITY (COMSEC)

G. TECHNIQUES/PROCEDURES INVOLVED IN OPERATING
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AN INVESTIGATING FORCE/ORGANIZATION

2. MOD PROGRAM ENVISIONS EIGHT WEEKS OF INSTRUCTION BEGINNING ABOUT OCTOBER 20 FOR APPROXIMATELY 30 OFFICERS OF ALL THREE SERVICES BUT PREDOMINANTLY ARMY. ADDITIONAL INSTRUCTION ON COMSEC AND OPERATIONAL TECHNIQUES OF COUNTER INTEL TO BE PRESENTED TO APPROXIMATELY 5-8 SELECT STUDENTS.

3. EMBASSY BELIEVES THAT IT WOULD SERVE US INTERESTS TO RESPOND FAVORABLY IN PART TO TUNISIAN REQUEST AND THEREFORE RECOMMENDS USLOT BE AUTHORIZED PROPOSE TO MOD THAT MTT PROVIDE TRAINING IN FOLLOWING SUBJECTS, ASSUMING DOD MTT CAPABILITY EXISTS:

A. STRATEGIC INTELLIGENCE ANALYSIS

B. TACTICAL INTELLIGENCE

C. MILITARY COUNTER-INTELLIGENCE

D. COMMUNICATIONS SECURITY

E. BORDER PATROL OPERATIONS (AS OPPOSED TO "BORDER SECURITY")

REF (C), MILITARY COUNTER INTELLIGENCE, WE HAVE IN MIND COUNTER MEASURES AGAINST INTELLIGENCE EFFORTS BY THIRD COUNTRIES, NOT INTERNAL COUNTER INTELLIGENCE.

4. EMBASSY BELIEVES OTHER TOPICS PROPOSED BY MOD ARE INAPPROPRIATE FOR INCLUSION IN MTT PROGRAM, AND WITH DEPT'S CONCURRENCE WILL INFORM MOD THAT USG IS NOT IN POSITION PROVIDE SUCH TRAINING (EVEN THOUGH WE MAY HAVE CAPABILITY). TUNISIAN REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE WITH INTERNAL SECURITY, COUNTER-INSURGENCY INVESTIGATION, AND PERSONNEL INVESTIGATION PROCEDURES SUGGESTS STRONG MOD DESIRE TO BUILD UP ITS INTERNAL SECURITY CAPABILITY AGAINST POSSIBLE FUTURE RISK OF INSUBORDINATE, DISLOYAL UNITS OR INDIVIDUALS. TRAINING FOR SUCH BUILD-UP IS PROBABLY READILY AVAILABLE TO TUNISIAN MOD FROM OTHER SOURCES AND WE CONFIDENTIAL

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WOULD PREFER TO SEE TUNISIANS ARRANGE FOR POTENTIALLY REPRESSIVE ACTIVITY THROUGH NON-AMERICAN CHANNELS. IN PRESENTLY HIGHLY UNLIKELY INSTANCE OF PLOT ATTEMPT WITHIN TUNISIAN ARMED FORCES, IDENTIFICATION BY GOT OFFICERS OF USG AS SPONSOR OF REGIME'S EFFORTS TO PUT DOWN PLOTTERS WOULD NOT RPT NOT BE TO SIGNIFICANT USG ADVANTAGE IN EVENT PLOT FAILED: AND WOULD BE DISTINCT DISADVANTAGE IN EVENT PLOT SUCCEEDED. AGAINST MODEST

PLUS TO PRESENT USG/GOT RELATIONS WHICH WOULD RESULT FROM TOTAL RESPONSIVENESS TO MOD REQUEST, WE SEE LONG RANGE RISK OF SERIOUS DAMAGE FROM ENGAGING IN SUCH TRAINING ACTIVITY.

5. WOULD APPRECIATE DEPT'S REACTION AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. IF DEPT CONCURS, WE WOULD BE GRATEFUL FOR ANY LANGUAGE WE CAN USE IN INFORMING MOD OF INABILITY PROVIDE TRAINING IN FIELDS MENTIONED PARA 4.
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